of this 60 kms long line was assessed as Rs. 1099 crore with negative rate of return. Beyond singtam, the new line was not considered technically feasible due to steep gradient. The proposal was not taken up for implementation due to unremunerative nature, heavy throwforward and constraint of resources. Further based on demands survey for new line from sivok to Rangpo has been taken up.

Increasing the speed of trains

2073. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to increase the speed of some trains;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) whether the tracks are fit enough to bear the increased speed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Speeding up of passenger carrying trains is an ongoing process over Indian Railways.

(b) During the current financial year 2006-07, more than 657 mail/express trains have been speeded up.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Construction of overbridge in Orissa

†2074. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY; Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand for construction of an overbridge on similar level crossing under Dhankanal district and Boinda and Chaipal level crossings under Angul district in Orissa is pending with his Ministry;

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) if not, whether his Ministry would fulfil this demand of people by collecting the information from the concerned department?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir,.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Railways construct Road over/under bridges in lieu of existing busy level crossings on cost sharing basis if the traffic density reaches upto one lakh or more TVUs (TVU—A unit obtained by multiplying the number of trains with the number of road vehicles passing over the level crossing in 24 hours) otherwise on depositierms. Proposals in both cases have to be sponsored by the State Government concerned duly fulfilling certain preliminary pre-requisites required under extant rules. East Coast Railways is aware of the public demand and has approached the State Government of Orisa to propose the work on cost sharing basis. State Government of Orissa has not yet sponsored proposals for the said level crossings.

Projects of Gujarat under NRVY

2075. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain railway projects were included in the National Rail Vikas Yojana (NRVY);

(b) if so, the number of projects relating to Gujarat State;

(c) whether Bharuch-Dahej gauge conversion and provision of a new line from Surat to Hazira for providing rail connectivity to Hazira was included in the NRVY;

(d) if so, the present status of these projects;

(e) whether any time bound programme has been framed to complete these projects; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Five.

(c) Yes, Sir.